

Application No.: 10/020,482

10

Docket No.: 226272003311

REMARKS

Claims 47-49, 93-124, and 178-199 were pending in the present application. By virtue of this response, claims 93, 94, 117, and 180 are amended and claims 103, 113, 189, and 199 are cancelled as suggested by the Examiner during a telephone call on April 14, 2005. Accordingly, claims 47-49, 93-102, 104-112, 114-124, 178-188, and 190-198 are currently under consideration.

With respect to all amendments and cancelled claims, Applicants have not dedicated or abandoned any unclaimed subject matter and moreover have not acquiesced to any rejections and/or objections made by the Patent Office. Applicants reserve the right to pursue prosecution of any presently excluded claim embodiments in future continuation and/or divisional application.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

pa-972562

Application No.: 10/020,482

11

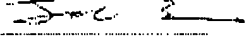
Docket No.: 226272003311

CONCLUSION

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no.226272003311. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: April 14, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Jie Zhou

Registration No.: 52,395
MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP
755 Page Mill Road
Palo Alto, California 94304
(650) 813-5922

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